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August 30, 2011

Virtual Special Education

This article discusses the how special education would be implemented in a virtual sense. It challenges special education teachers and makes them have to have a more intense training than regular classroom teachers. It gives the special education teacher time to work on IEP and be able to send it to others electronically. Teachers must have to learn how to implement a students learning with an online setting and make lesson plans to meet their needs. Allowing special education to become virtual gives teachers more time for professional development.

The author talks about the positives that virtual special education offers, and recommends it for schools. They give ideas on how to make activities seem more hand on and how effective it can be for the students. He/she recommends that to teach students money management you can give them x amount of money and give them a scenario they have to buy food for and then the next day give them less money with the same scenario to show how they could manage groceries.

Being a special education major I feel as if this is inappropriate. Going into this career I understand the lengthy hours, IEP meetings, and personal time I will be putting into making my students better. There are many different levels of severity within special education; some students might not even speak and others might not be able to function moving a mouse on a computer. When setting up IEP goals for a student it is not only important for them to learn core educational things but also personal vendettas. A child might want to learn how to brush their teeth by themselves; a computer cannot physically make a child learn that. I realize our society is evolving into a technology based world, but I fear that one day students will not even know how to write with a pen on a piece of paper because all they will have learned is how to type on a computer.

http://www.mspnews.com/news/2011/08/23/5725340.htm